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LETTER DATED 5 JANUARY 1998 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I. OF
THE PERMANENT MISSION OF THE UNITED ARAB EMIRATES TO THE UNITED
NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the text of paragraph (a) of the section entitled "Occupation of the three islands belonging to the United Arab Emirates and relations with Iran" of the final communiqué issued at the conclusion of the eighteenth session of the Supreme Council of the Gulf Cooperation Council, held in Kuwait from 20 to 22 December 1997.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Yacub Yousif AL-HOSANI
Chargé d'affaires a.i.



Annex

Excerpt from the final communiqué issued at the conclusion of the eighteenth session of the Supreme Council of the Gulf Cooperation Council, held in Kuwait from 20 to 22 December 1997

Occupation of the three islands belonging to the United Arab Emirates and relations with Iran

(a) Occupation of the three islands belonging to the United Arab Emirates

The Supreme Council has considered the developments in the situation with regard to the Greater Tunb, Lesser Tunb and Abu Mussa islands, which belong to the United Arab Emirates but are occupied by Iran. It once again deplores the fact that the Islamic Republic of Iran has not responded to any of the serious and sincere appeals made to that country by the United Arab Emirates and regional and international organizations and agencies with a view to finding a peaceful settlement to the dispute.

The Council has reviewed the statements by the President of the Islamic Republic of Iran, H.E. Mr. Mohamad Khatemi, in which he expressed his desire to meet with the President of the United Arab Emirates, H.E. Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al-Nahyan, who has welcomed this and declared himself amenable to any meeting between the leaders of the two countries.

Reaffirming the sovereignty of the United Arab Emirates over the Greater Tunb, Lesser Tunb and Abu Mussa islands and reaffirming its full support for all the peaceful measures taken by the United Arab Emirates to re-establish its sovereignty over them, the Council again invites the Iranian Government to end its occupation of the islands, renounce its policy of fait accompli, refrain from building any further installations with a view to changing the demographic composition of the islands and destroy those it has built, rescind all unilateral measures taken to date and settle the dispute by peaceful means, in accordance with the principles and rules of international law, in particular by agreeing to bring the matter before the International Court of Justice.
